



Pontypridd Urban District Council.

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health,

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER,

1941.

A. G. M. SEVERN, M.A., M.D., D.P.H.,

*Medical Officer of Health, School Medical Officer,
and*

Medical Superintendent of the Isolation and Smallpox Hospitals.

Observer Office, Pontypridd.



Pontypridd Urban District Council.

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health,

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER,

1941.

A. G. M. SEVERN, M.A., M.D., D.P.H.,

*Medical Officer of Health, School Medical Officer,
and*

Medical Superintendent of the Isolation and Smallpox Hospitals.

Observer Office, Pontypridd.

Pontypridd Urban District Council.

Chairman of the Council.

Councillor EVAN MORGAN, J.P.

COMMITTEES, 1941-1942.

Health Committee.

Chairman : Councillor G. E. PUGH.

Councillor R. E. ARNOTT, J.P.
" ARTHUR BROWN.
" A. J. CHAMPION, J.P.
" H. G. A. DARKE.
" H. GARDNER.
" JOHN HOWELL, J.P.
" C. H. JAMES.
" E. P. JAMES.
" D. T. JONES.
" J. COLENZO JONES, M.B.E.
" J. WYNNE JONES.
" WILLIAM JONES.
" H. G. JOSHUA.
" EVAN MORGAN.
" GEORGE PAGET.
" E. MORGAN PHILLIPS.
" J. POWDERHILL, C.C.
" G. E. PUGH.
" Mrs. BLODWEN RANDELL.
" D. J. RICHARDS.
" G. H. ROGERS.
" EDWIN ROWBOTHAM.
" A. SEYMOUR.
" HOPKIN SMITH, C.C.
" A. R. WATKINS.

Maternity and Child Welfare Committee.

Chairman : Councillor Mrs. B. RANDELL.

The Members of the Health Committee, together with the following co-opted Members:—

Mrs. A. FLOYD.	Mrs. M. M. MARRAN.
Mrs. L. I. HOBBS.	Mrs. H. L. PORCHER.
Mrs. A. JOHN.	Mrs. G. TOOMEY.
Mrs. A. JONES.	Mrs. G. WILLIAMS.

Solicitor : Clerk of the Council—

Mr. H. LEONARD PORCHER.

**Pontypridd Representatives on the Pontypridd and Caerphilly
Joint Smallpox Hospital Committee.**

The CHAIRMAN of the HEALTH COMMITTEE, and
Councillor C. H. JAMES.
Councillor A. SEYMOUR.

PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT STAFF.

*Medical Officer of Health and Medical Superintendent of the
Isolation and Smallpox Hospitals :*

A. G. M. SEVERN, M.A. (Camb.), M.D., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.

Assistant Medical Officer :

DORIS WILLIAMS, M.B., B.S., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.

Specialist Medical Officers (part-time) :

Orthopaedic Surgeon :

J. BERRY HAYCRAFT, M.B., Ch.B. (Ed.), F.R.C.S. (Eng.).

Ophthalmic Surgeon :

BERNARD GLUCK, M.A., M.B., M.Ch., D.O.M.S., F.R.C.S. (Ed.).

Medical Officers (part-time) :

SYBIL M. MORGAN, B.Sc., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.

GLADYS M. AITKEN, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

GRACE M. PHILLIPS, M.R.C.S. (Eng.), L.R.C.P. (Lond.), M.C.O.G.

Dental Surgeon :

J. I. HUGHES, L.D.S., R.C.S.

Senior Sanitary Inspector :

a. MICHAEL DALEY.

Sanitary Inspectors :

a.b. D. G. DAVIES (died 3rd November, 1941).

a.b. J. E. DAVIES.

Caretaker, Public Abattoir :

R. J. STROUD.

Ambulance Driver and Disinfecter :

A. H. SEYMOUR.

Health Visitors :

c.d.e.f. BEATRICE M. DAVIES.

c.f. FANNY EVANS (*retired July, 1941*).

c.d. DOROTHY C. HOPKINS.

c.d.g. GWENDA M. WILLIAMS (*Orthopaedic*).

c.d.f. ANNE E. C. WILLIAMS (*commenced July, 1941*)

Chief Clerk :

*E. J. LEWIS.

Clerks :

*J. SOULSBY. ETHEL M. HARVEY (*left June, 1941*).

*A. L. GLAVES. *D. E. LEWIS.

*K. WRIDE. MEGAN M. EVANS.

*Engaged also on clerical work in connection with the School Medical Service.

Matron of Isolation Hospital :

c.d.e. C. E. REES.

- a. Certificate of Royal Sanitary Institute for Sanitary Inspectors.
- b. Certificate of Royal Sanitary Institute for Inspector of Meat and Other Foods.
- c. Certificate of Central Midwives' Board or State Certified Midwife.
- d. State Registered Nurse.
- e. Registered Fever Nurse.
- f. Certificate of Royal Sanitary Institute for Health Visitors and School Nurses.
- g. Orthopaedic Trained Nurse.

Pontypridd Urban District Council.

ANNUAL REPORT

Of the Medical Officer of Health.

PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT,
MUNICIPAL BUILDINGS,
PONTYPRIDD.

1943.

To the Chairman and Members of the
PONTYPRIDD URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

Mrs. RANDELL AND GENTLEMEN,

Herewith I beg to submit for your consideration the Annual Report of the Health Department containing essential statistical information for the twelve months ended December 31st, 1941.

This report is considerably curtailed on account of paper shortage and circumstances arising from the war; and some statistics are temporarily suppressed for reasons of security in accordance with the instructions of the Ministry of Health.

I am,

Your obedient Servant,

A. G. M. SEVERN,

Medical Officer of Health.

SUMMARY OF GENERAL STATISTICS.

Population (Census, 1931)	.....	.....	.....	42,717
Area (Acres)	.....	.....	.....	8,140
Number of inhabited houses (1940)	.....	.....	.....	9,202
Rateable Value (end of 1941)	.....	.....	.....	£154,284
Sum represented by a Penny Rate	.....	.....	.....	£567

SUMMARY OF VITAL STATISTICS.**Births—**

Legitimate—Males, 372 ; Females, 308 ;	Total, 680	
Illegitimate—Males, 13 ; Females, 15 ;	Total, 28	708

Deaths.

Males, 320.	Females, 247.	Total	.....	567
Percentage of total Deaths occurring in Public Institutions	.....	.....	.....	21.0

Deaths of Infants (under one year :—

Legitimate—Males, 35.	Females, 19.	Total	54	
Illegitimate—Males, 0 :	Females, 0.	Total,	0	54

Infant Death-rate per 1,000 live births :—

Legitimate—Males, 74.2.	Illegitimate, 0.0	Total	74.2
Neo-Natal Death-Rate (up to 4 weeks)		Total	31.0

Still-Births :—

Legitimate	Males, 10.	Females, 21.	Total, 31.	
Illegitimate.	Males, 0.	Females, 0.	Total, 0.	31

Maternal Mortality.

		<i>Rate per 1,000</i>	
Deaths from puerperal causes :		<i>live and</i>	
		<i>Deaths.</i>	<i>still-births.</i>
(1) Puerperal sepsis	.....	0	0.0
(2) Other puerperal causes	.....	1	1.3
Total	.....	1	1.3

	<i>Total Deaths.</i>
Cancer (all ages)	60
Measles (all ages)	0
Whooping Cough (all ages)	5
Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age)	4

Vital Statistics for the whole District during 1941 and previous years.

Year.	Population.		Births.		Total Deaths Registered in the District.		Transferable Deaths.		Nett Deaths belonging to the District.			
	For Birth Rate	For Death Rate.	Num-ber.	Rate.	Num-ber.	Rate.	Of Non-Residents Registered in the Dis-trict.	Of Residents not registered in the Dis-trict.	Under 1 year of age.		At all Ages.	
									Num-ber.	Rate per 1,000 Births.	Num-ber.	Rate per 1,000 Popu-lation.
1932	42670	42670	709	16.4	599	14.0	112	58	49	69.1	545	12.8
1933	42580	42580	758	17.8	591	13.9	133	88	63	83.1	546	12.8
1934	42020	42020	728	17.3	577	13.4	151	92	49	67.3	518	12.3
1935	41240	41240	692	16.8	604	14.6	164	64	42	60.7	504	12.2
1936	40100	40100	627	15.6	623	15.5	152	54	33	52.6	525	13.1
1937	39070	39070	637	16.3	646	16.3	166	89	44	69.0	569	14.5
1938	38610	38610	551	14.3	585	15.2	146	90	48	87.1	529	13.7
1939	38240	38330	546	14.3	639	16.6	160	80	37	72.1	559	14.6
1940	.....	.....	661	.....	616	.....	197	105	34	.....	524	.....
1941	.....	.....	708	.....	839	.....	357	85	54	.....	567	.....

HOSPITAL AND INSTITUTIONAL PROVISION FOR MOTHERS OR CHILDREN.

Hospital and Institutional provision for the above, outlined in the 1938 Annual Report, remains the same.

AMBULANCE FACILITIES.

- (a) For infectious diseases.
- (b) For non-infectious and accident cases.
- (c) For maternity patients.

The arrangements outlined in my report for 1940 continued without change during the year, and may be regarded as adequate to the needs of the district and population.

CLINICS AND TREATMENT CENTRES.

These remain the same as stated in the 1939 Annual Report.

Birth Control and Minor Gynaecological Clinic.

The scope of this Clinic, which is administered by the Health Committee, includes the diagnosis and treatment of minor diseases of women ; Dr. Sybil Morgan continues to be the medical officer in charge. The consulting gynaecologist is Prof. G. I. Strachan, F.R.C.S. (Eng.) and Dr. Kingsley Lewis, the anaesthetist.

No case was admitted to hospital during 1941.

In the course of the year the attendances were as follow :—

New Patients	.....	.....	94
Re-visits	.....	.....	302

The cases were referred to this Clinic by the medical staff of the maternity and child welfare centres and local medical practitioners.

The majority of women required advice regarding treatment for gynaecological conditions.

MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE.

Infant Welfare Centres.

Number of Centres provided and maintained by the Council and open at 31st December, 1941			4
--	-------	-------	---

Total number of children who first attended at the Centres during the year and who, on the date of their first attendance, were :

(i) Under one year of age	.....	.....	617
(ii.) Between the ages of 1 and 5 years	.....	.....	125

Total number of children under five years of age who attended at the Centres during the year and who, at the end of the year, were :—

(i.) Under one year of age	.....	.....	551
(ii.) Over one year of age	.....	.....	829

Ante-Natal Clinics.

Ante-natal Clinics provided and maintained by the Council and open on 31st December, 1941	1
Total number of women who attended at the Ante-natal Clinic during the year	618

Child Life Protection.—Public Health Act, 1936.

The Council's Health Visitors, appointed Infant Protection Visitors, continue to carry out their duties under the Act.

No deliberate contraventions of any of the provisions of those parts of the Acts for which the Local Authority is responsible were reported during the year.

Sale of Dried Milk, etc., at Clinics.—The total value of dried milk, cod liver oil emulsion and vitamin preparations sold at cost price during the year ended December 31st, 1941, amounted to £1,641 13s. 9d.

Health Visiting.

Number of Health Visitors employed at the end of the year	3
Equivalent of whole-time services devoted by the above staff to health visiting in the area (including attendance at infant welfare centres)	$\frac{3}{4}$

Number of visits paid during the year by all Health Visitors :—

To expectant Mothers	First Visits	251
	Total visits	547
To children under one year of age—		
	First visits	706
	Total visits	2,223
To children between the ages of one and five years—		
	Total visits	2,311

Provision for Dental Treatment.

The Dental Surgeon submits the following record of the work done under this heading in the course of the year :—

(a)	Number of Sessions held	.....	.....	.....	64
(b)	Attendances for treatment—Women	.....	138		
	Attendances for treatment—Children	.....	16	—	124
(c)	Absentees and postponed visits	.....	.....		148
(d)	Fillings : (i) In temporary teeth	.....	5		
	(ii) In permanent teeth	.....	4	—	9
(e)	Extractions : (i) Temporary	.....	46		
	(ii) Permanent	.....	725	—	771
(f)	Dentures supplied to 36 women :—				
	Full sets	.....	.....	.....	11
	Part sets	.....	.....	.....	25
	Remodelling	.....	.....	.....	0

Provision for Ophthalmic Treatment.

The examinations are carried out at the School Clinic by the Ophthalmic Surgeon in the part-time employment of the Education Committee.

Eight children were examined during the year, five of these being re-examinations.

The eye defects or diseases diagnosed included congenital nystagmus, blepharitis, ptosis, squint, epicanthus, and lachrymal obstruction. In one case spectacles were prescribed for hypermetropia.

The Puerperal Pyrexia Regulations, 1939.

Eleven cases of Puerperal Pyrexia were notified during 1941. Of these, six were notified from the Central Homes Infirmary; one patient was admitted to Llwynypia Hospital and the remaining four cases were treated at home under the care of the family doctor; good recoveries were made in each instance.

Additional hospital accommodation both at the Royal Infirmary, Cardiff, and Llwynypia Hospital is available, if required, free treatment being provided in necessitous cases.

Mr. G. I. Strachan, F.R.C.S. (Eng.), Gynaecologist, Cardiff Royal Infirmary, acts as consultant under these arrangements. His services, however, were not called upon during the year.

Consulting Service in Maternity Cases.

This service continues to be maintained as in previous years; Prof. Strachan, F.R.C.S. (Eng.), acting as consultant when required.

Orthopaedic Treatment.

There has been no alteration in the Council's arrangements for dealing with the above cases. Expenditure on this service during the financial year 1941/42 amounted to £192 as compared with £240 for the previous corresponding period.

The Orthopaedic Surgeon, Mr. J. Berry Haycraft, F.R.C.S., held two clinic sessions during 1941 in Pontypridd, in May and November.

The following data give an indication of the orthopaedic work carried out by the Maternity and Child Welfare Department :—

Number of new cases under school entry age examined by the Orthopaedic Surgeon at the Pontypridd Clinic in 1941	.....	.....	.....	37
Number of old cases re-examined	.....	.....	.....	15
Number of emergency cases referred to the Prince of Wales' Hospital, Cardiff	.....	.....	.....	14

Artificial Light Clinic.

This Clinic continued to function as in previous years. Twelve children were treated for various ailments, with a total of 489 attendances. All derived benefit and gained in weight.

Council's Scales of Income for determining Necessity.

There has been no change in the two approved scales of income which were reproduced in the Annual Report for 1938.

Public Health Staff.

There has been no change of importance in the staff personnel during the year.

Nursing in the Home.

There has been no alteration in the facilities provided in this connection detailed in previous reports.

Midwifery Service.

In accordance with Part II. of the Midwives' Act, 1936, the Glamorgan County Council, as the Supervising Authority for this district, maintain seven permanent and two permanent relief midwives for the Pontypridd area and these are resident in the respective wards of the town as follow :—

Graig	.....	1	Coedpenmaen	.....	1
Graigwen	.....	1	Hopkinstown	.....	1
Cilfynydd	.....	1	Treforest and Rhydfelin		2

The two relief midwives are delegated to the Coedpenmaen and Treforest districts.

Maternity and Nursing Homes.

Pontypridd is not a local supervising authority under Acts relating to the registration of maternity and other nursing homes. This work is carried out for the Pontypridd area by the Glamorgan County Council.

Laboratory Work and Facilities.

The Cardiff and County Public Health Laboratory examines and reports upon all pathological specimens submitted from the Pontypridd area. In 1941 suspected specimens to the number of approximately 1,826 were sent by the Health Department and Isolation Hospital, in addition to a considerable number forwarded by the local doctors. These included throat and nose swabs, sputa, blood, pus, faeces, cerebro-spinal fluid, etc.

Outfits for the collection of specimens for transmission through the post are kept at the office of the Public Health Department for the use of the medical practitioners of the town.

Adoptive Acts Bye-Laws and Local Regulations relating to Public Health in force in the District.

A complete list of the above was given in the 1938 Annual Report. There is nothing to add for the year under review.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

Water Supply.

The Pontypridd and Rhondda Joint Water Board provides an ample and constant service of pure water to all the houses and premises in this locality with exceedingly few exceptions.

The M.O.H. is also medical officer to the Board for the periodical examination of all employees engaged on the Authority's reservoirs, filtration plant and water mains.

Rainfall.

The following statistics of the local rainfall and the data relating to the water supply of Pontypridd for the year 1941 have been kindly provided by the Engineer and Manager of the Joint Water Board:—

Rainfall registered at Lanwood Reservoir, Pontypridd, during 1941.

<i>Month.</i>	<i>Inches.</i>
January	4.77
February	6.01
March	4.21
April	1.84
May	3.52
June	1.91
July	3.93
August	7.86
September	1.19
October	7.39
November	3.90
December	6.40
Total	53.03

The average rainfall recorded at the above station for the last ten years is 59.77 inches.

Four samples of water from the public supply were taken by the Health Department and submitted for chemical analysis, and five for bacteriological examination; all were reported to be satisfactory.

Drainage and Sewerage.

A complete water-carriage system of sewerage, seventeen miles in length, controlled by the Pontypridd and Rhondda Joint Sewerage Board, extends from the Rhondda Urban area to the sea. All authorised inhabited houses in the Pontypridd urban locality are connected with this main sewer, with the exception of approximately 110 dwellings, which lie outside the statutory distance.

In addition to the above a number of vans and temporary dwellings in the area are of necessity employing the conservancy system of sewage disposal.

Closet Accommodation.

There are approximately 106 houses in the district without separate closet accommodation, one water closet serving the needs of two houses.

Scavenging and Salvage Collection.

The collection and disposal of house and trade refuse is under the administration of the Surveyor's Department, and the arrangements for collection are as stated in previous Reports.

The following are particulars of refuse and waste material collected during 1941 ;—

			From Pontypridd Area. Tons.		From Llantwit Area. Tons
Refuse	.....	.....	15,043	.....	951
Offal	.....	.....	287	.....	—
			—		—
Total		.....	15,230	.....	951
			—		—

Average amount collected per working day from both of the above areas, 52 tons.

Sanitary Inspection of the Area.

Summary of Inspections and Revisits in the course of Routine Work and "On Complaint" during the year ended 31st December, 1941 :—

Public Health Acts :—

House Inspection—First Visits	.....	.....	.....	.....	761
Revisits	.....	.....	.....	.....	2066

Housing Acts :—

Slum Clearance—First Visits	.....	.....	.....	.....	10
Revisits	.....	.....	.....	.....	26
Overcrowding—First Visits	.....	.....	.....	.....	3
Revisits	.....	.....	.....	.....	0
Infectious Disease	.....	.....	.....	.....	236
Disinfection	.....	.....	.....	.....	8
Disinfestation	.....	.....	.....	.....	2
Bakehouses	.....	.....	.....	.....	28
Factories	.....	.....	.....	.....	78
Police Court Proceedings	.....	.....	.....	.....	10
Workshops	.....	.....	.....	.....	27
Common Lodging-Houses	.....	.....	.....	.....	11
Houses Let in Lodgings	.....	.....	.....	.....	11
Canal Boats Inspections	.....	.....	.....	.....	6
Fried Fish Sops	.....	.....	.....	.....	61
Other Offensive Trades	.....	.....	.....	.....	13
Cinemas and Theatres	.....	.....	.....	.....	20
Schools	.....	.....	.....	.....	7
Cowsheds	.....	.....	.....	.....	15
Dairies	.....	.....	.....	.....	80
Milkshops	.....	.....	.....	.....	54
Knackers' Yards	.....	.....	.....	.....	1
Re Refuse Accommodation	.....	.....	.....	.....	43
Pigstyes	.....	.....	.....	.....	5
Stables	.....	.....	.....	.....	1
Miscellaneous	.....	.....	.....	.....	132
Food Sampling :—					
Graded Milk	.....	.....	.....	.....	11
Ungraded Milk	.....	.....	.....	.....	25
Water	.....	.....	.....	.....	5
Food and Drugs	.....	.....	.....	.....	115

Notices served :—

Informal	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	388
Formal	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	145
Letters sent <i>re</i> Notices	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	61

Summary of Nuisances abated during the Year 1941.

	Nuisances Abated.
Insufficient drainage	2
Defective and choked drains	120
Defective inspection chambers	2
Defective kitchen sinks and waste pipes	19
Defective soilpipes and ventilation shafts	3
Defective and choked W.C.'s	32
Insufficient W.C. accommodation	5
Defective flush tanks and water fittings in W.C.'s	61
Yard surfaces defective	22
Defective roofs and chimney stacks	149
Defective rainwater shutters and down-pipes	79
Defective external walls and internal plastering	102
Defective and decayed woodwork in floors, skirting, boards, staircases and handrails	22
Defective and decayed woodwork in doors and door frames	45
Windows : defective woodwork, not made to open, etc.	29
Fireplaces : defective brickwork, broken firegrates and ovens	29
Smoke nuisances, including those caused by defective flues	4
Defective tile and stone floors	13
Defective sub-soil drainage	2
Dirty and verminous premises	11
Accumulations of offensive matter	6
Walls abutting earth causing dampness	1
Verminous Premises	1
Animals improperly kept	1
Insufficient Refuse accommodation	2
Breach of bye-laws	8
Miscellaneous Nuisances	2
Total	783

Prosecutions under Public Health Acts, etc.

Ten prosecutions under the Public Health Acts were taken out by the Sanitary Inspectors during 1941. In each instance the owner carried out the works stipulated and the summonses were withdrawn on payment of costs.

Factories Act, 1937.

The usual tables and particulars under this heading are omitted for reasons connected with the war.

Crematorium.

The Pontypridd Crematorium consists of two cells, one electric and one gas heated.

The number of cremations shows a slow but steady increase each year; the figure for 1941 being 398, as compared with 319 in the previous twelve months.

Camping Sites.

No Licences have been issued in respect of camping sites by the Local Authority; nor are there any sites within the area which are used for these purposes.

Rats and Mice (Destruction) Act, 1919.

The Sanitary Inspectors have visited premises and given appropriate advice where rat or mice infestation was reported. Help of this kind has been generally successful, and in some cases squill rat poison has been supplied free of charge.

Common Lodging-Houses.

There is now only one common lodging-house in the Pontypridd area. The premises are visited periodically by the sanitary staff and are maintained in a satisfactory manner. Registration was renewed in December.

Verminous Premises.—Eradication of Bed Bugs.

The methods employed in this locality for dealing with verminous premises were outlined in my previous report. The number of premises dealt with during the year under review was as follows :—

(i) Council Houses.....	.....	9
(ii) Other Houses	.....	2

Offensive Trades.

The following offensive trades are established in the district :

Rag Storage and sorting	.....	2
Fellmonger	.....	1
Fried-fish shops	.....	28
Knacker's Yard	.....	1
Horse butchery	.....	1

The above premises and trades are conducted in accordance with the Council's bye-laws framed for the regulation of offensive trades.

Rent and Mortgage Interest Restrictions Acts, 1920 to 1938.

During 1941, five applications were received by the local authority in connection with the above Acts and a Certificate was granted in each case.

No applications were received for the withdrawal of Certificates previously granted.

Swimming Baths and Pools.

Pontypridd possesses a municipal open-air swimming bath and a paddling pool situated in Ynysangharad Park. The adult bath has a capacity of 460,000 gallons, and the juvenile pool 180,000 gallons.

A large-capacity filtration and purification plant treats the water of both baths by chemical precipitation, filtration, aeration and finally chlorination.

HOUSING STATISTICS, 1941.

1. Inspection of Dwelling-Houses during the Year :—

(1) (a)	Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	774
(b)	Number of Inspections made for the purpose	2,096
(2) (a)	Number of dwelling-houses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925 and 1932	—
(b)	Number of Inspections made for the purpose	—
(3)	Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	Nil.
(4)	Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	388

2. Remedy of Defects during the Year without Service of Formal Notices :—

Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers	224
---	-----

HOUSING—*Continued.*3. **Action under Statutory Powers during the year :—**

(a) Proceedings under sections 9, 10 and 16 of Housing Act, 1936 :—

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs —

(2) Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices :—

(a) By owners —

(b) By Local Authority in default of owners —

(b) Proceedings under the Public Health Acts :—

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied 145

(2) Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices :—

(a) By owners 84

(b) By Local Authority in default of owners —

(c) Proceedings under Sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936 :—

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made —

(2) Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders —

HOUSING—*Continued.*

(d) Proceedings under Section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936 :—

(1) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made

(2) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit

4. Housing Act, 1936.

The Council took no action in connection with overcrowding or slum clearance during the year under review.

Council Houses.

Particulars of the dwelling-houses owned by the Pontypridd Local Authority at the end of 1941 are set out below :—

Duffryn Housing Estate	.....	496
Housing Acts, 1930-1936	.....	92
Ynys Terrace	.....	28
Gwernygerwn	.....	6

Taken over by the Council :—

Small Dwellings Acquisition		
Acts 1899-1923 and Housing		
Act, 1923	.....	38

Total		660
-------	-------	-----

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

The Milk (Special Designations) Order, 1936.

Tuberculin Tested.—Three licences to bottle and retail this grade of milk were approved by the Council in 1941 ; all were renewals.

Pasteurised.—The Council granted four licences to retail milk under this designation. All were renewals.

Bacteriological Examination of Graded Milk.—Twenty-six samples of T.T. milk were submitted to the Cardiff and County Public Health Laboratory for analysis ; of these, 15 were reported to be satisfactory, while 11 samples were unsatisfactory.

Nine samples of pasteurised milk were similarly examined, of which one was found to be unsatisfactory.

Milk and Dairies Order, 1926.

Milk Producers.—There is no alteration in the number of registered milk producers in this locality.

Milk Retailers.—Two certificates of registration as milk, retailers were approved and issued by the Council in 1941 ; each represented a change of ownership.

Bacteriological Examination of Ungraded Milk.—One sample of ungraded milk was submitted to the Cardiff Laboratory for examination and this was reported as satisfactory.

A small number of milk samples were examined at the above Laboratory for tubercle bacilli ; all were found to be negative.

Dairies and Cowsheds.—The Sanitary Inspectors paid 15 visits to cowsheds and dairy farms in the urban area, and made 80 inspections of dairies and milkshops.

No new cowsheds or similar buildings were erected or extended in 1941.

Inspection of Meat and Other Foods.

Two of the Council's three Sanitary Inspectors possess the special qualification for the examination of meat and other foods and this is regarded as an important part of their duties.

At the outbreak of war, a Government controlled scheme for centralising the slaughtering of food animals was initiated and put into operation in January, 1940. The Council's Public Abattoir was selected for this purpose to meet the needs of Pontypridd and certain of the surrounding districts. Slaughtering at all private slaughter-houses was thereupon discontinued.

Visits and re-visits made to the Public Abattoir by Meat Inspectors	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	618
Visits made to other premises under Public Health (Meat) Regulations, 1924	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	838

							1456

The following are particulars of the number of animals slaughtered for food at the Public Abattoir, Pontypridd, during the year 1941 :—

Cattle.	Calves.	Sheep and Lambs.	Pigs.	Totals.
2,421.	1,882.	25,930.	1,564.	31,797.

Summary of unsound meat and other foods surrendered and destroyed during the year ended 31st December, 1941 :—

	Tons.	Cwts.	Qrs.	lbs.
Public Abattoir, Tubercular Meat	24	8	0	28
Public Abattoir, Diseased Meat	18	19	0	10
Public Markets, other Foods	1	8	0	27

	44	15	2	4

The following table shows the percentage figures for the year ended 31st December, 1941, for those carcasses affected with :—

(1) Diseases other than Tuberculosis.

(2) Tuberculosis.

	Cattle.	Calves.	Sheep and Lambs.	Pigs.
Number killed	2421	1882	26,400	1564
Number inspected	2421	1882	26,400	1564
(1) All diseases other than Tuberculosis :				
Whole carcasses condemned	7	1	21	4
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	730	2	4484	33
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than Tuberculosis	30.44	0.16	17.06	2.36
(2) Tuberculosis only :				
Whole carcasses condemned	58	1	—	22
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	402	1	—	98
Percentage of the number inspected affected with Tuberculosis	19.0	0.11	—	7.61

Slaughter of Animals Act, 1933.

The number of slaughtermen holding valid licences on December 31st, 1941, issued by the Pontypridd Council in accordance with the provisions of Section 3 of the above Act was 15.

Eight renewals of licences, as well as seven new applications, were approved by the Council in the course of the year, and certificates granted.

Section 1 of the Act is applicable within this area to sheep, ewes, wethers, rams and lambs.

Places where Food is prepared in the District.

Fried-fish Shops	.....	28
Butchers making sausages, faggots, etc.	.....	26
Shops retailing ice-cream	.....	38

Food and Drugs Act, 1938.

The Pontypridd Council administer the above Act in this area and the Authority's Sanitary Inspectors are appointed Sampling Officers. Mr. J. H. Sugden, F.I.C., and Mr. D. Evans Jones, F.I.C., of the Cardiff and County Public Health Laboratory, are the public analysts appointed to act jointly for this district.

In the course of the year the following samples were submitted to and reported upon by the analysts :—

Food :—					<i>Genuine.</i>	<i>Not Genuine</i>
						
Milk	.....	.....	.....	.....	128	11
Butter	.....	.....	.....	.....	2	—
Margarine	.....	.....	.....	.....	2	—
Meat Roll	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	—
Sausage	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	—
Vinegar	.....	.....	.....	.....	6	—
Marmalade	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	—
Jam	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	—
Meat Paste	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	—
Honey	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	—
Custard Powder	.....	.....	.....	.....	2	—
Coffee	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	—

					<i>Genuine</i>	<i>Not Genuine.</i>
Sultanas	.....	.....	.....	.....	2	—
Fish Paste	.....	.....	.....	.....	2	—
Mustard	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	—
Rice	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	—
Dried Apples	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	—
Peas	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	—
Peart Barley	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	—
Fruit Cordial	.....	.....	.....	.....	2	—
					158	11

The percentage of milk samples found to be not genuine was 8.6 including both formal and informal samples.

The percentage of samples found to be not genuine was 8.6 per cent. of the total milk samples. The average composition of the genuine milk samples was 3.66 per cent. milk-fat and 8.69 per cent. solids-not-fat, as compared with the standard laid down in the Milk Regulations of 3.0 milk-fat and 8.5 per cent. solids-not-fat.

Particulars of the defects in the non-genuine milk are given below :—

- No. 1. Fat deficiency of 18 per cent.
- No. 2. Fat deficiency of 45 per cent.
- No. 3. Fat Deficiency of 3 per cent.
- No. 4. Fat deficiency of 20 per cent.
- No. 5. Fat deficiency of 8 per cent.
- No. 6. Fat deficiency of 13 per cent.
- No. 7. Contained 4 per cent. added water.
- No. 8. Contained 2 per cent. added water.
- No. 9. Contained 4 per cent. added water.
- No. 10. Fat deficiency of 1.6 per cent.
- No. 11. Fat deficiency of 18 per cent.

Proceedings were taken against the vendor of No. 1, resulting in a fine of £3 and payment of the analyst's fee of 14/-.

Nos. 2, 10, and 11 were informal samples and accordingly legal proceedings were not possible. Formal samples taken later were found to be genuine.

The fat deficiency in No. 3 was slight. No legal proceedings were taken. The Vendor was warned.

No action was taken in the cases of Nos. 4 and 6.

Proceedings were taken against the retailer of No. 5, resulting in a fine of £1 and payment of the analyst's fee of 14/-.

Nos. 7, 8 and 9 were samples from the same retailer. No action was taken in cases Nos. 7 and 8, but proceedings were taken in case No. 9, resulting in a fine of 10/- and an order to pay analyst's fee of 14/-.

PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES.

Public Vaccination.

The Vaccination Officer's return for the Pontypridd District for the twelve months ended 31st December, 1941, is as follows :—

Primary Vaccination	156.	Re-vaccinations	3
		Insusceptible,	0.

Artificial Immunisation against Diphtheria and Measles.

As a result of Government propaganda for the immunisation of young children against Diphtheria, a large number of parents took advantage of this free service and the following are totals of the children who received the full course of immunisation during the year 1941 :—

Under 5 years	.....	273
5 to 15 years	.....	1000
		1273

Adult serum for the prophylaxis or attenuation of measles is offered in approved cases, free of charge, by the Emergency Public Health Laboratory, Cardiff, to medical practitioners in this locality for the treatment of selected cases. Enquirers are referred to the medical officer in charge of the above Laboratory.

Non-Notifiable Acute Infectious Diseases.

There was rather a high incidence of chicken pox and influenza during the midsummer months, which led to the closure of a school for several weeks.

Mumps was reported in average numbers from the school departments.

Summer diarrhoea led to four deaths in children below the age of two years.

Co-operation of Head Teachers was maintained throughout the year in reporting to the Department cases of scabies and contagious skin diseases and the figures obtained showed a slight rise on previous years.

Infectious Diseases and Disinfection.

The arrangements and procedure outlined in my previous reports continued in operation throughout the year.

The number of disinfections carried out in 1941 is as follows :—

No. of houses fumigated after infectious disease (scarlet fever, diphtheria, etc.)	.....	.....	.....	.....	313
No. of houses fumigated after pulmonary tuberculosis	.....				46
No. of houses fumigated after other diseases (cancer, etc.)					15
No. of houses from which bedding, infected clothing, etc., were conveyed for disinfection at the steam disinfector					8
Sundry other disinfections, books, etc.	.....	.....	.....		408

Replacement of Destroyed Bedding.

Authority is given to the Local Authority, by Section 167, SS.4, of the Public Health Act, 1936, to replace bedding soiled and suspected of containing infection after infectious disease. No such replacement, however, took place in the year 1941.

Cancer.

In 1941, 60 deaths from cancer (all forms) were recorded in Pontypridd—24 males and 26 females—as compared with total of 42 in the previous year.

Notifiable Disease (other than Tuberculosis) during the Year 1941.

Disease.	Total cases notified.	Cases admitted to hospital.	Total deaths.
Typhoid Fever	2	2	—
Paratyphoid Fever	3	3	—
Smallpox	—	—	—
Scarlet Fever	51	50	1
Diphtheria	205	205	13
Dysentery	—	—	—
Puerperal Pyrexia	11	6	—
Pneumonia	40	—	20
Erysipelas	19	6	—
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	17	6	—
Encephalitis Lethargica	—	—	—
Cerebro-Spinal Fever	11	11	3
Acute Poliomyelitis	1	1	—
Measles	476	2	—
Whooping Cough	187	—	5
Totals	1023	292	42

CASES OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE IN AGE GROUPS NOTIFIED DURING THE YEAR 1941.

DISEASE.	Under 1 year	1-2 years.	2-3 years.	3-4 years.	4-5 years.	5-10 years.	10-15 years.	15-20 years.	20-35 years.	35-45 years.	45-65 and over.	65 years. over.	All ages.
Scarlet Fever	1	2	6	5	3	22	8	3	1	...	...	...	51
Diphtheria	3	10	9	10	5	88	46	15	12	5	2	...	205
Puerperal Pyrexia	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	9	2	...	...	11
Pneumonia	3	3	...	1	1	4	3	3	4	6	11	1	40
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	17	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	17
Erysipelas	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	2	1	11	3	19
Enteric Fever (including Paratyphoid)	...	...	...	2	...	...	1	...	1	...	1	...	5
Cerebro-spinal Fever	...	...	...	1	...	2	1	3	3	...	1	...	11
Acute Poliomyelitis	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
*Measles	20	47	56	81	100	153	11	6	2	...	...	...	476
*Whooping Cough	26	27	28	40	25	40	1	...	...	...	...	...	187
Dysentery	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Tuberculosis :—Respiratory	...	2	...	...	1	2	...	13	29	12	8	1	68
Non-Respiratory	...	...	3	1	...	2	1	1	3	2	...	...	13
TOTALS	70	91	103	141	135	313	72	46	66	28	34	5	1104

* Notifiable Infectious Disease Order of Ministry of Health. The Measles and Whooping Cough Regulations, 1939, dated 23rd October, 1939.

Cases of Infectious Disease notified in each Ward during the Year 1941.

DISEASE.	Graig. Graig.	Rhon- dda.	Town.	Cil- fynydd	Trall- wn.	Tre- forest.	Rhyd- yfelin.	Totals.
Scarlet Fever	8	5	7	8	10	4	9	51
Diphtheria	47	16	4	67	11	27	33	205
Puerperal Pyrexia	5	.....	1	5	.....	.....	.....	11
Pneumonia	7	5	2	9	6	8	3	40
Erysipelas	8	.....	.....	1	5	2	3	19
Ophthalmia Neona- torum	7	.....	.....	3	2	3	2	17
Enteric Fever (in- cluding Para- typhoid)	1	1	.....	.....	2	1	.....	5
Cerebro-spinal Fever	2	2	2	.....	2	2	1	11
Acute Poliomyelitis .....	.....	.....	.....	1	.....	.....	.....	1
Measles	20	14	13	47	39	138	205	477
Whooping Cough	32	22	8	19	26	49	31	187
Dysentery .....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Tuberculosis—	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Respiratory	8	13	7	5	11	10	14	68
Non-Respiratory	6	2	1	.....	2	.....	2	13
TOTALS	151	80	45	165	116	344	303	1104

Notifiable Diseases treated at Council's Isolation Hospital, Tonteg.

The following table gives the number of cases treated in the Isolation Hospital during the year 1941 :—

No. of cases remaining in hospital at end of 1940	47
*No. of cases admitted during 1941 (including diph- theria " carriers " and observation cases	302
No. of cases remaining in hospital at end of 1941	37

The following shows the nature of the cases admitted during the year :—

*Scarlet Fever	60
*Diphtheria	208
Diphtheria " Carriers " and Observation	21
Cerebro-Spinal Fever	11
Enteric Fever (including Paratyphoid)	5
Measles	2

*Includes 10 scarlet fever and 3 diphtheria cases admitted from other areas.

Ophthalmia Neonatorum.

Noti- fied.	Cases.		Vision Un- impaired	Vision Im- paired.	Total Blind- ness.	Deaths.
	Treated.					
	At Home.	In Hospital.				
14	10	7	17	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.

Tuberculosis. New Cases and Mortality during 1941.

Age Periods.			New Cases.				Deaths.			
			Respira- tory.		Non- Respira- tory.		Respira- tory.		Non- Respira- tory.	
			M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Under 1 year	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
1 to 5 years	.....	.....	2	1	2	2	.....	.....	2	2
5 to 15 years	.....	.....	.....	2	2	1	.....	.....	1	.....
15 to 25 years	.....	.....	15	9	1	3	3	3	.....	2
25 to 35 years	.....	.....	6	12	.....	.....	2	5	.....	.....
35 to 45 years	.....	.....	7	5	2	.....	3	3	.....	.....
45 to 55 years	.....	.....	6	1	.....	.....	.....	1	.....	1
55 to 65 years	.....	.....	1	.....	.....	.....	1	.....	.....	.....
65 and upwards	....	.....	1	.....	.....	.....	1	1	.....	.....
Totals	.....	.....	38	20	7	6	10	13	3	5

Notification.

During the year 1941, thirty-one deaths from Tuberculosis (all forms) were registered, of which 28 (or 90 per cent.) were already notified to the Medical Officer of Health.

Tuberculosis Death-Rates.

The local death-rate from tuberculosis per 1,000 of the population for 1940 and the previous four years was as follows:—

	1940.	1939.	1938.	1937.	1936.
Respiratory	0.67	0.67	0.93	0.99	0.7
Non-respiratory	0.23	0.15	0.24	0.14	0.22
All forms of Tuberculosis	0.91	0.83	1.17	1.13	0.92

The death rates for both forms of tuberculosis in 1941, while not reproduced, show an improvement on the above figures.

THE PUBLIC HEALTH (PREVENTION OF TUBERCULOSIS) REGULATIONS, 1925.

The Local Authority took no action under the Regulations during the year.

PUBLIC HEALTH ACT, 1925—SECTION 62, and PUBLIC HEALTH ACT, 1936—SECTION 172.

No action was taken under this head by the Health Department in 1941.

CAUSES OF DEATH, 1941.

Cause of Death.	Male.	Female.	Total.
Scarlet fever	1	0	1
Whooping cough	1	4	5
Diphtheria	7	6	13
Cerebro-spinal fever	2	1	3
Influenza	10	4	14
Acute influenza encephalitis	0	1	1
Tuberculosis of respiratory system	10	13	23
Other tuberculosis diseases	3	5	8
Syphilis	1	1	5
Diabetes	1	2	3
Heart disease	81	62	143
Other circulatory diseases	5	4	9
Bronchitis	33	20	53
Pneumonia (all forms)	12	8	20
Other respiratory diseases	3	3	6
Diarrhoea, etc. (under 2 years)	3	1	4
Appendicitis	0	0	0
Other digestive diseases	7	6	13
Acute and chronic nephritis	7	8	15
Puerperal sepsis	0	0	0
Other maternal causes	0	1	1
Premature birth	9	6	15
Suicide	1	0	1
Other violent causes	13	3	16
Cancer of buccal cavity and oesophagus (m), uterus (f)	6	6	12
Cancer of stomach and duodenum	14	3	17
Cancer of breast	1	3	4
Cancer of all other sites	13	14	27
Intracranial vascular lesions	28	19	47
Ulcer of stomach or duodenum	1	1	2
Congenital debility, malformations, etc.	10	3	13
Road traffic accidents	3	6	9
All other causes	21	33	64
Totals	320	247	567

INFANTILE MORTALITY DURING THE YEAR, 1941.

Deaths at various ages under One Year of Age.

Cause of Death.	Under 1 week.	1-2 weeks.	2-3 weeks.	3-4 weeks.	Total under 4 weeks.	4 weeks and under 3 months.	3 months and under 6 months.	6 months and under 9 months.	9 months and under 12 months.	Total Deaths under one year.
All Causes :—Certified	19	1	5		25	9	11	3	6	54
Whooping Cough						1		1	1	3
Tubercular Diseases									1	1
Convulsions		1			1	4	1	1	1	8
Bronchitis						2	2			4
Pneumonia (all forms)			2		2	1	5	1	1	10
Enteritis							1		1	2
Atelectasis	2				2					2
Congenital Malformations			1		1					1
Premature Birth	10		2		12					12
Atrophy, Debility, and Marasmus	2				2	1	1		1	5
Other Causes	5				5		1			6
TOTALS	19	1	5		25	9	11	3	6	54

INFANTILE MORTALITY DURING THE YEAR 1941.

Deaths under one Year of Age in the several Wards.

	No. of Deaths.
Graig	8
Rhondda	12
Town	1
Cilfynydd	6
Trallwn	8
Treforest	6
Rhydyfelin	13
Total for Urban District	54

**Birth-Rates, Civilian Death-Rates, Analysis of Mortality, Maternal Death-Rates
and Case-Rates for certain Infectious Diseases in the Year 1941.**

ENGLAND AND WALES, LONDON, 126 GREAT TOWNS AND
148 SMALLER TOWNS.

(Provisional figures based on Weekly and Quarterly Returns).

	England and Wales.	126 County Boroughs and Great Towns including London.	148 Smaller Towns (Resident popula- tions 25,000 to 50,000 at Census).	London Admin- istra- tive County
Rates per 1,000 Civilian Population.				
Births :—				
Live	14.2	14.7	16.4	8.9
Still	0.51	0.58	0.60	0.33
Deaths :—				
All Causes	12.9	14.9	13.0	16.3
Typhoid and Para- typhoid Fever	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.01
Measles	0.03	0.03	0.03	0.02
Scarlet Fever	0.00	0.00	0.01	0.00
Whooping Cough	0.06	0.07	0.06	0.04
Diphtheria	0.07	0.08	0.06	0.03
Influenza	0.19	0.17	0.20	0.15
Notifications :—				
Smallpox	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Scarlet Fever	1.47	1.49	1.51	1.01
Diphtheria	1.25	1.53	1.19	0.93
Erysipelas	0.30	0.36	0.27	0.50
Pneumonia	1.25	1.53	1.04	1.07
Cerebro-Spinal Fever	0.25	0.31	0.20	0.30
Whooping Cough	4.39	4.37	4.50	3.50
Measles	10.33	8.27	10.47	4.77
Typhoid	0.03	0.02	0.03	0.04
Paratyphoid	0.09	0.12	0.09	0.05
Rates per 1,000 Live Births.				
Deaths under 1 year of age	59	71	56	68
Deaths from :— Diarrhoea and Enter- itis under 2 years of age	5.1	7.5	4.6	6.8
Rates per 1,000 Total Births (<i>i.e.</i> , Live and Still).				
Maternal Mortality :—				
Puerperal Sepsis	0.48			
Others	1.75	Not available.		
Total	2.23			
Notifications :—				
Puerperal Fever	11.91	15.64	9.43	2.29
Puerperal Pyrexia				19.33

